AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1 – 43. (cancelled without prejudice)

44. (currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for performing a data method, the method steps comprising: aggregating enterprise related ~~event~~ data from a plurality of database management systems in accordance with a common schema and storing said aggregated data in one or more tables or files to support processing.

45. (previously presented) The program storage device of claim 44 wherein the enterprise related data are aggregated in accordance with a common data dictionary that identifies a common set of attributes selected from the group consisting of: category of value, component of value, element of value, currency, unit of measure and combinations thereof.

46. (previously presented) The program storage device of claim 45, wherein the components of value are selected from the group consisting of revenue, expense, change in capital and combinations thereof.

47. (previously presented) The program storage device of claim 46, wherein the elements of value are selected from the group consisting of brands, customers, employees, production equipment, strategic partnerships, vendor relationships and combinations thereof.

48. (previously presented) The program storage device of claim 46, wherein at least part of enterprise-related data is entered for each point of time over a sequential series of points in time preceding a specified valuation date.

49. (currently amended) The program storage device of claim 48, wherein the enterprise related ~~event~~ data further comprise forecast event data and historical event data.

50. (previously presented) The program storage device of claim 49, wherein the enterprise related event data further comprises transaction data.

51. (previously presented) The program storage device of claim 44 wherein said plurality of database management systems are obtained from the group consisting of advanced financial systems, basic financial systems, operation management systems, sales management systems, human resource systems, accounts receivable systems, accounts payable systems, capital asset systems, inventory systems, invoicing systems, payroll systems, purchasing systems, the Internet and combinations thereof.

52. (previously presented) The program storage device of claim 44, wherein the common schema further comprises a network model.

53. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method, comprising:
aggregating enterprise related event data from a plurality of database management systems in accordance with a common schema and storing said aggregated data in one or more tables or files to support processing for enterprise analysis and modeling.

54. (previously presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the enterprise related data are aggregated in accordance with a common data dictionary that identifies a common set of attributes selected from the group consisting of category of value, component of value, element of value, currency, unit of measure and combinations thereof.

55. (previously presented) The method of claim 54, wherein one or more elements of value are selected from the group consisting of brands, customers, employees, production equipment, strategic partnerships, vendor relationships and combinations thereof.

56. (currently amended) The method of claim 53, wherein enterprise related event data further comprises forecast event data and historical event data.

57. (currently amended) The method of claim 53, wherein the enterprise related event data further comprises transaction data.

58. (previously presented) The method of claim 53, wherein said plurality of database management systems are obtained from the group consisting of advanced financial systems, basic financial systems, operation management systems, sales management systems, human resource systems, accounts receivable systems, accounts payable systems, capital asset systems, inventory systems, invoicing systems, payroll systems, purchasing systems, the Internet and combinations thereof.

59. (previously presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the common schema further comprises a network model.

Claims 60-64 (canceled without prejudice)

65. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method, comprising:
automatically aggregating enterprise related event data from a plurality of database management systems into files or tables in a common database, thereby converting the data into a format that supports a common schema for analyzing and modeling an enterprise.

66. (previously presented) The method of claim 65, the method further comprising:
using a common data dictionary to identify a common set of attributes in the enterprise related data from the plurality of database management systems, the attributes including at least one of: component of value, currency, element of value, unit of measure, or a combination thereof;
automatically aggregating the enterprise related data from the plurality of database management systems using the identified common set of attributes.

67. (previously presented) A computer readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processor in a computer to perform an enterprise data integration method, comprising:

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obtaining a plurality of data dictionaries and data from a plurality of data sources via a network connection,

identifying one or more relationships between each data source data dictionary and an application database data dictionary,

converting said data source data to a common schema by using said relationships in an application software segment, and

storing said converted data in an application database for use in processing

where a plurality of data sources further comprise a plurality of database management systems for applications selected from the group consisting of a basic financial system, a human resource system, an advanced financial system, a sales system, an operations system, an accounts receivable system, an accounts payable system, a capital asset system, an inventory system, an invoicing system, a payroll system, a purchasing system and combinations thereof.

68. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67, wherein a common schema is defined by an application database schema.

69. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67, wherein a common schema further comprises a network schema.

70. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67, wherein a common schema contains a common data dictionary where said common data dictionary defines common attributes selected from the group consisting of elements of value, components of value, currencies, units of measure, time periods, dates and combinations thereof.

71. (previously presented) A data integration system, comprising:

a computer with a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;

a storage device available to said processor with sequences of instructions stored therein, an interface coupled to a plurality of data sources each of which has a data dictionary, and an application software segment which when executed causes the processor to:

obtain a plurality of data dictionaries and data from the plurality of data sources,

identify one or more relationships between each data source data dictionary and an application database data dictionary,

convert said data source data to a common schema by using said relationships, and

store said converted data in an application database for use in processing.

72. (previously presented) The system of claim 71, wherein a plurality of data sources further comprise a plurality of relational databases that use different data formats.

73. (previously presented) The system of claim 71, wherein an interface further comprises a network connection.

74. (previously presented) The system of claim 71, wherein a plurality of data sources further comprise database management systems for applications selected from the group consisting of a basic financial system, a human resource system, an advanced financial system, a sales system, an operations system, an accounts receivable system, an accounts payable system, a capital asset system, an inventory system, an invoicing system, a payroll system,. a purchasing system, an intranet and combinations thereof.

75. (previously presented) The system of claim 71, wherein a common schema contains a common data dictionary that defines common attributes selected from the group consisting of elements of value, components of value, currencies, units of measure, time periods, dates and combinations thereof.

76. (previously presented) The system of claim 71, wherein a conversion of data to a common schema further comprises an conversion of data that is completed automatically.

77. (previously presented) A computer implemented data integration method, comprising:

accessing a plurality of enterprise data and data dictionaries via a back-end interface coupled to a plurality of data sources,

identifying one or more relationships between each data source data dictionary and an application database data dictionary,

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converting said enterprise data to a common schema by using said relationships in an application software segment, and

storing said converted data in an application database for use in processing,

where a common schema further comprises a network schema, and

where a plurality of data sources further comprise database management systems for a plurality of enterprise transaction systems.

78. (previously presented) The method of claim 77, wherein a back-end interface further comprises a network connection.

79. (previously presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the method further comprises accessing, converting, integrating and storing data from an Internet.

80. (previously presented) The method of claim 77, wherein a common schema further comprises a common data dictionary where said common data dictionary defines common attributes selected from the group consisting of elements of value, components of value, currencies, units of measure, time periods, dates and combinations thereof.

81. (previously presented) The method of claim 77, wherein a plurality of enterprise transaction systems are selected from the group consisting of a basic financial system, a human resource system, an advanced financial system, a sales system, an operations system, an accounts receivable system, an accounts payable system, a capital asset system, an inventory system, an invoicing system, a payroll system, a purchasing system, an Intranet and combinations thereof.

82. (new) A method of building predictive models from transaction data, comprising:

aggregating data from a plurality of transaction systems covering a series of time periods for one or more elements and one or more outputs;

transforming said element data in accordance with one or more pre-programmed functions;

establishing a plurality of input nodes, a plurality of hidden nodes and an output node for a neural network model for each output;

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inputting the raw and transformed transaction data into each neural network model using a separate input node for untransformed transaction data and each pre-programmed transformation function by element for all time periods in the series;

training each neural network model using said inputs until an error function associated with an output value is minimized; and

using one or more weights from the trained neural network models to identify a set of raw and transformed transaction data by element and output that will be used as an input to one or more predictive models

where an error function further comprises ERR $(W)_k = 1/2 (R_k - Y(W))^2$.